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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/192,547	11/15/1998	TIMOTHY M. ANDERSON	10981774-1	9906

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EXAMINER

PHAM, BRENDA H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2664

DATE MAILED: 06/07/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/192,547

Applicant(s)

ANDERSON ET AL.

Examiner

Brenda Pham

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10 and 11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 2-9 and 13-20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This correspondence is in response to the applicant's response filed 1/30/2004.
Claims 1-20 are currently pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1 and 12 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Van Brunt (US 4,357,703).

-Regarding claim 1, Van Brunt discloses a method for testing a multi-device enclosure (11 of figure 11) that contains multiple devices (11, 40, 20, 22, 31, 34) and at least one processor, the method comprising: controlling a number of bypass circuits to bypass a number of external communications medium connectors to isolate the multi-device enclosure from an external communications medium; internally testing the multi-device enclosure by running a self-test routine on an internal processor; and when the multi-device enclosure passes the testing, controlling a number of bypass circuits to connect the number of external communications medium connectors to the external communications medium (figure 1 and column 3, lines 60-67, shows the logic circuit 11 is a main function under test. When the series transmission gates 10 are in the open condition, the main function logic circuit 11 under test is not affected by the main

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function inputs 12. In the same way, the main function circuit outputs are isolated by transmission gates 13 from the logic module main function outputs 30. This isolation capability allows in circuit on chip testing to take place. When the system is operated in a normal system operation function with the test circuitry inactive, normal data flows through closed transmission gates 10 from the main function inputs 12 to the main function circuit 11. Output data states flow through closed transmission gates 13 to main output terminals 30.)

-Regarding claim 12, Van Brunt discloses a self-testing multi-device enclosure comprising: an internal communication medium (communication medium within the logic module); a number of devices (11, 40, 20, 22, 31 and 34) interconnected by the internal communications medium; a number of connectors (10 and 13) that connect the multi-device enclosure to an external communications medium; bypass circuits that can be controlled to isolate connectors from, and connect connectors to, the external communications medium; bypass circuit that can be controlled to isolate connectors from, and connect connectors to, the external communications medium; a processor (11); and a self-test routine that runs on the processor to test the internal communications medium and the number of devices and to control bypass circuits to isolate the multi-device enclosure during self-testing from the external communications medium and to isolate the devices from the internal communications medium(column 3,4, lines 62-67, 34-42, respectively, when the series transmission gates 10 are in the open condition, the main function logic circuit 11 under test is not affected by the main

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function input 12. In the same way, the main function circuit outputs are isolated by transmission gates 13 from the logic module main function outputs. This isolation capability allows in circuit on chip testing take place. When the system is operated in a normal system operation function with the test circuitry inactive, normal data flows through closed transmission gates 10 from the main function inputs 12 to the main function circuit 11. Output data states flow through closed transmission gates 13 to main output terminals 30. Transmission gates 23 and 32 remain in an open condition, blocking data flow to or from the shift registers 20 and 31, respectively)

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 2-9, 13-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. Claims 10-11 are allowed.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art made of record does not teach or fairly suggest in combination when the device fails testing, controlling a bypass circuit to disconnect the device from the internal communications medium, and returning an indication that the testing of the multi-device enclosure has succeeded; and when the internal communications medium

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fails the testing, returning an indication that the testing of the multi-device enclosure has failed.

The prior art made of record fails to disclose wherein the internal communications medium and the external communications medium are portion of a fibre channel arbitrated loop.

Conclusion

7. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Fax to:

(703) 308-6743, (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")


Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121
Crystal Drive, Arlington VA Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brenda Pham whose telephone number is (703) 308-0148. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin, can be reached on (703) 305-4366.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

May 26, 2004
Brenda Pham



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